

D. C. GARBAGE DISPOSAL IS PROBLEM OF COMMISSION

Municipal Plant, Urged on Congress, Would Save Nearly \$54,000 Annually, Is Report of Consulting Engineer.

By BILL PRICE.

With a fast growing population, and large increases in cost, the problem of the collection of disposal of city waste, is one to which the District Commissioners will give serious attention in the preparation of their annual estimates to Congress.

Estimating that by so doing the District would save thousands of dollars annually, the Commissioners for two years have been endeavoring to obtain an appropriation for the building of a municipal garage plant and equipment with a view to ending the contract system.

Questions To Be Faced.

Whether they will include a similar item in their next estimates or whether they will recommend that contracts for the collection of garbage and rubbish be made for ten years, with the proviso that plants built by the contractors revert to the District at the end of that time, is the question now before them. The present five-year contracts end June 30, 1918.

The District appropriation for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916, contained an appropriation of \$7,500 for an investigation and report on the collection and disposal of city waste, including the preparation of plans and specifications for the construction of disposal plants. Under this authority a contract was made with Irwin S. Osborn, of Columbus, Ohio.

Take Two Years to Build.

Mr. Osborn states that it will take two years for the construction of the disposal plants. In the meantime the Commissioners have awarded one year's contract for the collection and disposal of ashes, beginning July 1, 1918, to James W. Dean, at \$78,300, an increase of \$18,300 over the present contract price.

Bids for the collection and disposal of garbage and miscellaneous refuse are now under consideration. The lowest bid under an annual contract for the collection of miscellaneous refuse was \$74,000, the present annual cost being \$25,000.

The present annual cost under the existing five-year contract is \$60,880. The lowest bid under an annual contract for the collection of miscellaneous refuse was \$74,000, the present annual cost being \$25,000.

Hope To Persuade Congress. With these figures at their disposal the Commissioners are hopeful they will be able to persuade Congress that the municipal handling of city waste is an economical measure, and that the city should begin to realize on the \$7,500 already expended on the proposition.

Mr. Osborn's report was made to the Commissioners under date of October 1, 1915. Seventeen projects were considered by him, which by process of elimination were reduced to three, and designated in his report as projects A, B, and C.

Project B, which contemplates that all work be done by the municipality, was the one recommended.

The plan is that all wastes be collected separately at present, but by improved apparatus, that garbage and dead animals be reclaimed as grease and fertilizer in reduction works, that rubbish be sorted for salable materials and the residue burned in a utilization and incineration plant, and that ashes be used for filling low ground.

\$882,000 Estimated Cost.

Mr. Osborn estimated the capital cost of this project at \$882,000, which officials of the Engineer Department say must now be increased because of the increased cost of labor and materials.

The net annual cost for the project in 1925, including interest and depreciation, was estimated by him at \$137,625. The amount required to collect and dispose of municipal waste by present contracts is \$191,620 a year.

Assuming that the cost by contract under present conditions would not increase, there would be a saving of \$53,992 a year if the work was done by the District at the estimated cost for 1925.

'WAGONLOAD' COAL MEN ARE PLEDGED RELIEF

Relief for so-called "wagonload" mine operators has been announced by Fuel Administrator Garfield. At the same time he stated that retailers' coal prices are not yet ready for promulgation.

Coal from wagon mines, or coal delivered from mines direct to the consumer by wagon or truck, may be sold at the President's price plus a sum representing the cost of hauling. However, operators who maintain their own sales department and dispose of coal directly to the dealer or consumer are not regarded as jobbers and may not charge the President's jobbers' commission.

MCADOO URGES PASSAGE OF INSURANCE MEASURE

Secretary of War Baker "went to the front" yesterday for America's fighting men with a vigorous plea for prompt passage of the soldiers' and sailors' civil rights bill. He urged the Senate judiciary subcommittee to make a favorable report on the measure at the earliest possible moment.

House Committee May Have Woman For Chairman

Congress may soon have not only a woman member, but a woman chairman. Suffragists' fight for a special woman suffrage committee in the House apparently is won. If the committee is created, there is an understanding that Speaker Clark will appoint Miss Jeanette Rankin, "the Lady from Montana," chairman.

A vote to create the committee comes Monday. Congressman Pott of North Carolina, chairman of the Rules Committee, will bring in a privileged resolution proposing the committee.

Chief opposition is from Congressman Webb, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, which heretofore has handled all suffrage legislation. One of suffrage's most determined foes, Webb has no taste for having jurisdiction of the subject grasped from him.

14-CENT MILK ON OCT. 1, NEXT DRAIN ON WALLET

Milk at from 14 to 15 cents a quart beginning October 1 is the prospect Washington consumers are facing today.

At a meeting of the executive committee of the Maryland and Virginia Milk Producers' Association held yesterday, farmers declared that with the present abnormal costs of feed and labor, it would be impossible to deliver milk in Washington during the coming fall and winter months at less than 35 cents a gallon.

Washington dealers who were present at the meeting stated that the proposed price would necessitate the retail price being advanced to at least 14 cents a quart.

The 35-cent price applies to milk of the standard 3½ per cent butterfat required by the laws of the District. For milk of higher butterfat content, it was declared farmers should receive an increase on the basis of 4 cents a pint. This would make 4 per cent milk sell at 37 cents and 4½ per cent milk at 39 cents.

The meeting of the executive committee followed a conference with the dairy division of the food administration, where inquiries were made as to prospects for cheaper feeds. Feeds at present, producers declared, are practically 100 per cent higher than they were a year ago, while it is difficult to procure labor.

Joseph F. Kropidowski, of the Department of Justice, was present at the meeting, and was furnished with detailed reports on production costs.

GEN. SCOTT MAY BE SENT TO FRONT AS OBSERVER

Maj. Gen. Hugh L. Scott will be sent to observe battle conditions on the front, according to present indications. Retired only yesterday, he will be called back into active duty today, orders having already been prepared to that effect.

According to Secretary Baker, General Scott's services will be in connection with the training of troops in the United States, and it is probable that a tour of the various battle fronts in Europe and a study of the conditions existing there will be made preparatory to the business of training the men here. He was afforded an opportunity to see Russian troops in action in Galicia while in Russia with the Red mission.

JAMES A. PURCELL IS MADE LIEUTENANT

James A. Purcell, twenty-seven years old, of this city, has been appointed a first lieutenant attached to the adjutant general's office, and will be the officer in charge of all statistical work for the army at foreign headquarters.

Mr. Purcell was born in this city, and is a graduate of the local schools. For a number of years he studied law in the office of the late Arthur A. Birney, and graduated with honor from the Georgetown University School of Law in 1914. Since that time he has been actively engaged in the practice of law, and attained a good reputation in the profession. On August 29, 1917, he entered the army as an army field clerk, and his promotion to the rank of first lieutenant has followed.

RED CROSS RUSHES PLANS FOR HOSPITALS

Preparations are being rushed for erection of permanent buildings for the Red Cross base hospital in France before winter.

Tents and temporary structures now occupied will not keep out the cold, and much suffering will result, according to Maj. M. P. Murphy, Red Cross commissioner to France, unless the new structures are completed soon.

Huge fir trees are being felled in northwestern forests, and will be rushed to New York via the Panama canal. At New York two complete portable sawmills, four concrete mixers and other equipment will be taken aboard. When this material arrives in France, expert engineers already there will supervise erection of warm buildings.

FACES MURDER CHARGE.

James McDowell, colored, will face a charge of murder in a preliminary hearing tomorrow, following the death of Octavia Bell at the Homeopathic Hospital last night. The woman was shot in the back, it is alleged, by McDowell on Friday night.

CHAMP CLARK TO SPEAK AT MILITARY VESPERS

Soldiers, sailors, and marines will hear Champ Clark, Speaker of the House, at the vesper services on the Ellipse at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

This is the second of the non-sectarian open-air services under auspices of the religious ministrations committee of the District War Service Commission.

The Rev. Earle Wilkey, pastor of Vermont Avenue Christian Church, chairman of the committee, will preside.

NATIONAL ART SCHOOL PLANS ANNUAL EXHIBIT

Students of the National School of Fine and Applied Art will give their annual exhibition of pictures at the school studios, 1505 Pennsylvania avenue, from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. beginning tomorrow and lasting until October 1.

The exhibition will contain more than 500 color pieces, and will occupy three floors of the building. Designs in interior decoration, costume, design, posters, and advertising illustrations will be shown. All the work

PLATE PRINTERS TO MEET.

The Plate Printers' Union will meet in Typographical Temple, 423-425 G street northwest, at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

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is done in the most modern method of spectrum coloring.

Director Felix Mahony has invited the public to the first exhibition of such work done by Washington residents that the city has ever had the opportunity of seeing.

The school will open for the winter session on October 1.


WANT DENTAL MEN EXEMPT.

A recommendation that dental students be exempt from military service under the selective draft is before President Wilson today. The matter was laid before him by Senator Lodge at the instance, it is understood, of Harvard and Tufts colleges, yesterday.


CHEVROLET WINS RACE, BREAKING U. S. RECORD


SHEEPSHEAD BAY SPEEDWAY, N. Y., Sept. 22.—Whirling around the track at a dizzy speed, Louis Chevrolet, in a Frontenac machine, set a new American record for 100 miles when he won the Harkness Trophy from a field of eighteen starters. The Frenchman's time was 54 minutes 20 seconds, 2 minutes 25 seconds better than the former American mark made by Dario Resta. Ralph DePalma finished second in the classic, and Eddie Hearne was third.

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—IN—

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